

# Mail Scam

## Types of Scams

Sweepstakes and Lottery Fraud  
Illegal Sweepstakes Information  
Chain Letters  
Free-Prize Scheme  
Foreign Lotteries By Mail: "Don't Do It!"  
Government Look-Alike Mail  
Free Vacation Scams



## Sweepstakes or Lottery

### *The Scam*

You receive a letter in the mail informing you of the announcement of the winners in a Lottery Sweepstakes drawing which you are a winner of. Your name was attached to the **lucky numbers** that was drawn.

**Congratulations you have won \$250,000.00 (Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars).** Attached is a check for **\$3,839.50** (or similar amount) portion of your winnings provided to help pay your portion of taxes, insurance, shipping and handling fees. The letter will say the **TAX AMOUNT IS \$1,980.00** (or similar amount). There is a representative in your area that will deliver the remainder of the money right to your door. All you must do to claim the money is call the claims manager immediately. A name and phone number will be provided on the letter.

The letter goes on and gives the following information:

- 1. We are treating your claim as a most urgent matter.*
- 2. In order to avoid cases of misappropriation and mishandling of prize money, discretion and confidentiality are of outmost importance.*
- 3. Correct name and address required for accurate prize disbursement.*
- 4. We are not responsible for unclaimed winnings after deadlines stated in this document.*

## Crime Prevention Tip

**Do not mail or wire any money to anyone. Do not call the number provided.**

Report mail fraud to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777).

Online: <https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/contactus/filecomplaint.aspx>